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April 13, 1999 LB 556, 652

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If we're going to stay on it, I'll speak, but if we're going to leave, then I don't want to speak now.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: We will be leaving the bill, Senator, and I think it is 3:00 now so we will just go ahead and leave this bill and if you will note on your agenda, then we go to LB 556. Yes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I stand corrected. It's only 2:00.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Real time? (Laugh)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's what it says.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, LB 556 was introduced by Senator Kristensen. (Title read.) The bill was read for the first time on January 19 of this year, referred to the Transportation Committee. That committee reports the bill to General File. There are no committee amendments attached.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Kristensen, you're recognized to open on LB 556.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the LB 556 is a result of a couple of different Legislature. concepts that have been before the Legislature in the past, oh, probably seven or eight years, and they deal with the issue of when you get a license plate and when you could go in and renew your license plate, and every so often, every three years, we issue a new plate. At that time, you get a plate and you are assessed a fee and that covers the cost, and that money is reimbursed back to the Highway Trust Fund. The Highway Trust Fund, when motor vehicle plates are manufactured, the cost of that manufacture and the distribution of that is paid for out of the Highway Trust Fund as a loan. At that...when that was created, that was the only pot of money that was out there to front the cost. And that worked well for a while, but what happened is the cost of the plate and the sticker then began to fall behind because there wasn't enough money, and so things things such as a county would order too many plates.